

(e) include such other rules as the coordinator deems necessary to implement the provisions of sections 67-5203, 67-5204 and 67-5205, Idaho Code, and this section.

(2) In accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter, the attorney general shall promulgate rules of procedure appropriate for use by as many agencies as possible. The rules shall deal with all general functions and duties performed in common by several agencies.

(3) In accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter, the attorney general shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions of sections 67-5220 through 67-5232, Idaho Code. The rules shall specify:

- (a) the form and content for petitions requesting an opportunity for an oral presentation in a substantive rulemaking;
- (b) procedures for the creation of a record of comments received at any oral presentation;
- (c) the standards by which exemptions from regular rulemaking requirements will be authorized to correct typographical errors, transcription errors, or clerical errors;
- (d) the form and content for a petition for the adoption of rules and the procedure for its submission, consideration and disposition;
- (e) procedures to facilitate negotiated rulemaking;
- (f) the form and content of a petition for a declaratory ruling on the applicability of statutes or regulations; and
- (g) such other provisions as may be necessary or useful.

(4) In accordance with the rule making [rulemaking] requirements of this chapter, the attorney general shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions of sections 67-5240 through 67-5255, Idaho Code. The rules shall specify:

- (a) form and content to be employed in giving notice of a contested case;
- (b) procedures and standards required for intervention in a contested case;
- (c) procedures for prehearing conferences;
- (d) format for pleadings, briefs, and motions;
- (e) the method by which service shall be made;
- (f) procedures for the issuance of subpoenas, discovery orders, and protective orders if authorized by other provisions of law;
- (g) qualifications for persons seeking to act as a hearing officer;
- (h) qualifications for persons seeking to act as a representative for parties to contested cases;
- (i) procedures to facilitate informal settlement of matters;
- (j) procedures for placing ex parte contacts on the record; and
- (k) such other provisions as may be necessary or useful.

(5)(a) After July 1, 1993, the rules promulgated by the attorney general under this section shall apply to all agencies that do not affirmatively promulgate alternative procedures after the promulgation of the rules by the attorney general. The rules promulgated by the attorney general shall supersede the procedural rules of any agency in effect on June 30, 1993, unless that agency promulgates its own procedures as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection.

(b) After July 1, 1993, an agency that promulgates its own procedures shall include in the rule adopting its own procedures a finding that states the reasons why the relevant portion of the attorney general's rules were inapplicable to the agency under the circumstances. [I.C., § 67-5206, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 7, p. 783; am. 1993, ch. 216, § 104, p. 587.]

Compiler's notes. Former § 67-5206 was amended and redesignated as § 67-5230 by § 21 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, effective July 1, 1993.

The bracketed word "rulemaking" in sub-

section (4) was inserted by the compiler.

Sections 103 and 105 of S.L. 1993, ch. 216 are compiled as §§ 67-5204 and 67-5221, respectively.

67-5207. Short title. — This chapter may be cited as the "Idaho Administrative Procedure Act." [I.C., § 67-5207, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 8, p. 783.]

Compiler's notes. Former § 67-5207 was amended and redesignated as § 67-5278 by § 50 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, effective July 1, 1993.

Section 9 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263 is compiled as § 67-5220.

67-5208 — 67-5219. [Reserved.]

Compiler's notes. Former §§ 67-5208 — 67-5210 were amended and redesignated as §§ 67-5232, 67-5242 and 67-5251, respectively by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, §§ 23, 26, and 36, respectively, effective July 1, 1993.

A former § 67-5211 which comprised 1965, ch. 273, § 11, p. 701, was repealed by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, § 29, effective July 1, 1993.

Former §§ 67-5212 — 67-5214 were amended and redesignated as §§ 67-5248, 67-5253 and 67-5254, respectively by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, §§ 33, 38, and 39 respectively, effective July 1, 1993.

A former § 67-5215 which comprised 1965, ch. 273, § 15, p. 701; am. 1991, ch. 248, § 1, p. 616, was repealed by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, § 41, effective July 1, 1993.

A former § 62-5216, which comprised 1965, ch. 273, § 16, p. 616, was repealed by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, § 41, effective July 1, 1993.

A former § 67-5217, which comprised 1969, ch. 48, § 1, p. 125; am. 1976, ch. 185, § 1, p. 671; am. 1980, ch. 212, § 3, p. 481, was repealed by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, § 52, effective July 1, 1993.

A former § 67-5218 was amended and redesignated as 67-5291 by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, § 53, effective July 1, 1993.

A former § 67-5219 was redesignated as § 67-5292 by S.L. 1992, ch. 263, § 54, effective July 1, 1993.

67-5220. Notice of intent to promulgate rules. — (1) An agency may publish in the bulletin a notice of intent to promulgate a rule. The notice shall contain a brief, nontechnical statement of the subject matter to be addressed in the proposed rulemaking, and shall include the purpose of the rule, the statutory authority for the rulemaking, citation to a specific federal statute or regulation if that is the basis of authority or requirement for the rulemaking, and the principal issues involved. The notice shall identify an individual to whom comments on the proposal may be sent.

(2) The notice of intent to promulgate a rule is intended to facilitate negotiated rulemaking, a process in which all interested parties and the agency seek consensus on the content of a rule. Agencies are encouraged to proceed through such informal rulemaking whenever it is feasible to do so. [I.C., § 67-5220, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 9, p. 783; am. 1994, ch. 271, § 1, p. 834.]

Compiler's notes. Section 8 of S.L. 1992,
ch. 263 is compiled as § 67-5207.

Sec. to sec. ref. Sections 67-5220 through
67-5232 are referred to in § 67-5206.

67-5221. Public notice of proposed rulemaking. — (1) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, the agency shall publish notice of proposed rulemaking in the bulletin. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

- (a) the specific statutory authority for the rulemaking including a citation to a specific federal statute or regulation if that is the basis of authority or requirement for the rulemaking;
- (b) a statement in nontechnical language of the substance of the proposed rule;
- (c) the text of the proposed rule prepared in legislative format;
- (d) the location, date, and time of any public hearings the agency intends to hold on the proposed rule;
- (e) the manner in which persons may make written comments on the proposed rule, including the name and address of a person in the agency to whom comments on the proposal may be sent;
- (f) the manner in which persons may request an opportunity for an oral presentation as provided in section 67-5222, Idaho Code; and
- (g) the deadline for public comments on the proposed rule.

(2)(a) Coinciding with each issue of the bulletin, the coordinator shall cause the publication of an abbreviated notice with a brief description of the subject matter, showing any agency's intent to propose a new or changed rule that is a new addition to that issue of the bulletin. The form of the notice shall be substantially as follows: typefaces used shall measure greater than seven (7) points, and space width shall not be less than two (2) newspaper columns. The content of the notice shall be substantially as follows:

A prominent bold typeface heading designed to alert readers to the rules and information contained in the notice. The notice shall include the agency name and address, rule number, rule subject matter as provided in paragraph (1)(b) of this section, and the comment deadline. A brief statement in a prominent bold typeface that informs citizens where they can view the administrative bulletin in hard copy or electronic form shall be included.

(b) The coordinator shall cause the notice required in paragraph (a) of this subsection to be published in at least the accepting newspaper of largest paid circulation that is published in each county in Idaho or, if no newspaper is published in the county, then in an accepting newspaper of largest paid circulation published in Idaho and circulated in the county. The newspaper of largest circulation shall be established by the sworn statement of average annual paid weekday issue circulation that has been filed by a newspaper with the United States post office for the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar year during which the advertisement in this section is required to be published. The coordinator is authorized to negotiate a rate or rates with any or all newspapers publishing these notices which will provide adequate exposure to the

notices by the least expensive means. For the purposes of this section, the provisions of section 60-105, Idaho Code, shall not apply. [1965, ch. 273, § 3, p. 701; am. 1978, ch. 255, § 1, p. 556; am. 1980, ch. 44, § 1, p. 72; am. 1980, ch. 212, § 1, p. 481; am. 1981, ch. 192, § 2, p. 338; am. 1981, ch. 245, § 1, p. 489; am. 1983 (Ex. Sess.), ch. 4, § 1, p. 23; am. and redesisg. 1992, ch. 263, § 10, p. 783; am. 1993, ch. 216, § 105, p. 587; am. 1993, ch. 245, § 3, p. 853; am. 1994, ch. 271, § 2, p. 834; am. 1994, ch. 371, § 3, p. 1194.]

Compiler's notes. This section was amended by two 1994 acts — ch. 271, § 2, and ch. 371, § 3, both effective July 1, 1994 — which do appear to conflict.

The amendment by ch. 271, § 2, added "including a citation to a specific federal statute or regulation if that is the basis of authority or requirement for the rulemaking" at the end of paragraph (1)(a); and in the PUBLIC NOTICE in paragraph (2)(a), substituted "and" for "[an]d" following "complete text", which word was deleted by ch. 371.

The amendment by ch. 371, § 3, in paragraph (2)(a), deleted "but less than twelve (12) points," following "greater than seven (7) points," and substituted "A prominent bold typeface heading designed to alert readers to the rules and information contained in the notice. The notice shall include the agency name and address, rule number, rule subject matter as provided in paragraph (1)(b) of this section, and the comment deadline. A brief statement in a prominent bold typeface that informs citizens where they can view the administrative bulletin in hard copy or electronic form shall be included." for a form titled "PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO PROPOSE OR PROMULGATE NEW OR CHANGED AGENCY RULES"; and added the last sentence of paragraph (2)(b).

This section was formerly compiled as § 67-5203 and was amended and redesignated as § 67-5221 by § 10 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, effective July 1, 1993.

Section 1 of S.L. 1981, ch. 192 is compiled as § 67-5201.

Section 11 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263 contained a repeal.

Sections 104 and 106 of S.L. 1993, ch. 216 are compiled as §§ 67-5206 and 67-5227, respectively.

Section 2 of S.L. 1993, ch. 245 is compiled as § 67-5205.

Section 2 of S.L. 1980, ch. 44 declared an emergency. Approved March 5, 1980.

Section 2 of S.L. 1983 (Ex. Sess.), ch. 4 declared an emergency. Approved May 19, 1983.

Section 4 of S.L. 1993, ch. 245 declared an emergency. Approved March 27, 1993.

Section 3 of S.L. 1994, ch. 271 is compiled as § 67-5223.

Section 2 of S.L. 1994, ch. 371 is compiled as § 67-5205.

Sec. to sec. ref. Sections 67-5221 through 67-5224 are referred to in § 67-5226.

Cited in: Intermountain Gas Co. v. Idaho Pub. Utils. Comm'n, 98 Idaho 718, 571 P.2d 1119 (1977).

ANALYSIS

Emergency rule-making.

Handbook adopted defectively.

Statements concerning internal management.

Emergency Rule-Making.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare clearly complied with the emergency rule-making provisions in adopting rules and regulations for pre-admission screening of nursing home patients for mental illness. *Idaho Health Care Ass'n v. Sullivan*, 716 F. Supp. 464 (D. Idaho 1989).

Handbook Adopted Defectively.

Where an administrative agency's policy and procedures manual was not adopted pursuant to the procedural requirements of this section, the agency's handbook had to be construed as merely an internal guideline capable of being changed by an agency head when necessary, not having the force and effect of law, and since the manual did not have the force and effect of law, no cause of action could be based on its alleged violation. *Service Employees Int'l Local 6 v. Idaho Dep't of Health & Welfare*, 106 Idaho 756, 683 P.2d 404 (1984).

Statements Concerning Internal Management.

Subdivision (7) of § 67-5201 does not provide for two types of rules, those that must be promulgated according to this section, and those that need not. Rather, subdivision (7) of § 67-5201 is a definitional term which provides that "statements concerning only the internal management of any agency and not affecting private rights or procedures available to the public . . ." are not rules; not being rules, they do not have the force and effect of law, and a violation of them does not create a private cause of action. *Service Employees Int'l Local 6 v. Idaho Dep't of Health & Welfare*, 106 Idaho 756, 683 P.2d 404 (1984).

67-5222. Public participation. — (1) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, the agency shall afford all interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit data, views and arguments, orally or in writing. The agency shall receive comments for not less than twenty-one (21) days after the date of publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the bulletin.

(2) When promulgating substantive rules, the agency shall provide an opportunity for oral presentation if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, a political subdivision, or an agency. The request must be made in writing and be within fourteen (14) days of the date of publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the bulletin, or within fourteen (14) days prior to the end of the comment period, whichever is later. An opportunity for oral presentation need not be provided when the agency has no discretion as to the substantive content of a proposed rule because the proposed rule is intended solely to comply:

- (a) with a controlling judicial decision or court order; or
- (b) with the provisions of a statute or federal rule that has been amended since the adoption of the agency rule. [I.C., § 67-5222, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 12, p. 783.]

Compiler's notes. Section 11 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263 contained a repeal and § 10 is compiled as § 67-5221.

67-5223. Interim legislative review — Legislative hearings — Statement of economic impact. — (1) At the same time that notice of proposed rulemaking is filed with the coordinator, the agency shall provide the same notice, accompanied by the full text of the rule under consideration in legislative format, as well as a statement of the substance of the intended action, to the director of the legislative council. If the proposed rulemaking is based upon a requirement of federal law or regulation, a copy of that specific federal law or regulation shall accompany the submission to the director of the legislative council. The director of the legislative council shall analyze and refer the material under consideration to the germane joint subcommittee created in section 67-454, Idaho Code.

(2) If the germane joint subcommittee notifies the agency within fourteen (14) days of the date of publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the bulletin or within fourteen (14) days prior to the end of the comment period, whichever is later, that the subcommittee intends to hold a hearing on the proposed rulemaking within fourteen (14) days, the agency shall extend the comment period for such additional time as required to receive comments from the subcommittee. The notification from the germane joint subcommittee to the agency shall be sent to the agency and shall also be published in the bulletin.

(3) An agency shall prepare and deliver to the germane joint subcommittee a statement of economic impact with respect to a proposed rule if, within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the proposed rule, the germane joint subcommittee files a written request with the agency for such a statement. The statement shall contain an evaluation of the costs and benefits of the

rule, including any health, safety, or welfare costs and benefits. The adequacy of the contents of the statement of economic impact is not subject to judicial review. [I.C., § 67-5223, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 13, p. 783; am. 1994, ch. 271, § 3, p. 834.]

Compiler's notes. Section 2 of S.L. 1994, ch. 271 is compiled as § 67-5221.

Sec. to sec. ref. This section is referred to in §§ 33-105 and 67-5226.

Opinions of Attorney General. A nutrient management plan developed by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare pursuant

to § 39-105 is subject to legislative review pursuant to this section and § 67-5291 and further, the limitation on authority granted to the department and the broad authority granted the board supports the conclusion that the plan is subject to review by the board. OAG 94-2.

67-5224. Final rule. — (1) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, the agency shall consider fully all written and oral submissions respecting the proposed rule.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, the agency shall publish the text of the final rule in the bulletin. In addition, the agency shall publish a concise explanatory statement containing:

- (a) reasons for adopting the final rule; and
- (b) a statement of any change between the text of the proposed rule and the text of the final rule with an explanation of the reasons for any changes.

(3) With the permission of the coordinator, the agency need not publish in full the text of the final rule if no significant changes have been made from the text of the proposed rule as published in the bulletin, but the notice of adoption of the final rule must cite the volume of the bulletin where the text is available and note all changes that have been made.

(4) An agency shall not publish a final rule until at least seven (7) days after the close of all public comment.

(5) When the legislature approves, amends or modifies a rule pursuant to section 67-5291, Idaho Code, such rule shall become final upon adoption of the concurrent resolution or such other date specified in the concurrent resolution. Otherwise, except as set forth in sections 67-5226 and 67-5228, Idaho Code, no rule adopted by an agency shall become final until the conclusion of a regular or special legislative session to which such rule has been submitted for review. Provided however, that except as set forth in sections 67-5226 and 67-5228, Idaho Code, no rule imposing a fee or charge of any kind shall become effective until it has been approved, amended or modified by concurrent resolution. [I.C., § 67-5224, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 14, p. 783; am. 1995, ch. 196, § 1, p. 686.]

Compiler's notes. Section 2 of S.L. 1995, ch. 196 is compiled as § 67-5226.

67-5225. Rulemaking record. — (1) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, the agency shall prepare a rulemaking record. The record shall be maintained in the main offices of the agency.

(2) The rulemaking record shall be available for public inspection and copying. The rulemaking record must contain:

- (a) copies of all publications in the bulletin;
- (b) all written petitions, submissions, and comments received by the agency and the agency's response to those petitions, submissions, and comments;
- (c) all written materials considered by the agency in connection with the formulation, proposal, or adoption of the rule;
- (d) a record of any oral presentations, any transcriptions of oral presentations, and any memorandum prepared by a presiding officer summarizing the contents of the presentations; and
- (e) any other materials or documents prepared in conjunction with the rulemaking.

(3) Except as otherwise required by a provision of law, the rulemaking record need not constitute the exclusive basis for agency action on that rule or for judicial review thereof.

(4) The record required in this section shall be maintained by the agency for a period of not less than two (2) years after the effective date of the rule. [I.C., § 67-5225, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 15, p. 783; am. 1995, ch. 270, § 1, p. 868.]

Compiler's notes. Section 2 of S.L. 1995, ch. 270 is compiled as § 67-5230. **Sec. to sec. ref.** This section is referred to in § 67-5275.

67-5226. Temporary rules. — (1) If the governor finds that:

- (a) it is reasonably necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare; or
- (b) compliance with deadlines in amendments to governing law or federal programs; or
- (c) conferring a benefit;

requires a rule to become effective before it has been submitted to the legislature for review the agency may proceed with such notice as is practicable and adopt a temporary rule. The agency may make the temporary rule immediately effective. The agency shall incorporate the required finding and a concise statement of its supporting reasons in each rule adopted in reliance upon the provisions of this subsection.

(2) A rule adopted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section which imposes a fee or charge may become effective under this section before it has been approved, amended or modified by concurrent resolution only if the governor finds that the fee or charge is necessary to avoid immediate danger which justifies the imposition of such fee or charge.

(3) In no case shall a rule adopted pursuant to this section remain in effect beyond the conclusion of the next succeeding regular session of the legislature unless such rule is approved, amended or modified by concurrent resolution, in which case such rule may remain in effect until the time specified in the resolution or until such rule has been replaced by a permanent rule adopted in accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter.

(4) Temporary rules shall be published in the first available issue of the bulletin.

(5) Temporary rules are not subject to the requirements of section 67-5223, Idaho Code.

(6) Concurrently with the promulgation of a rule under this section, or as soon as reasonably possible thereafter, an agency shall commence the promulgation of a permanent rule in accordance with the rulemaking requirements of this chapter. [I.C., § 67-5226, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 16, p. 783; am. 1995, ch. 196, § 2, p. 686.]

Compiler's notes. Sections 1 and 3 of S.L. 1995, ch. 196 are compiled as §§ 67-5224 and 67-5291, respectively.

67-5227. Variance between final rule and proposed rule. — An agency may adopt a final rule that varies in content from that which was originally proposed if the subject matter of the rule remains the same, the final rule is a logical outgrowth of the proposed rule, and the original notice was written so as to assure that members of the public were reasonably notified of the subject of agency action in order for such members of the public to determine whether their interests could be affected by agency action on that subject. [I.C., § 67-5227, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 17, p. 783; am. 1993, ch. 216, § 106, p. 587.]

Compiler's notes. Sections 105 and 107 of S.L. 1993, ch. 216 are compiled as §§ 67-5221 and 67-5241, respectively.

67-5228. Exemption from regular rulemaking procedures. — An agency may amend a final rule to correct typographical errors, transcription errors, or clerical errors when the amendments are approved by the coordinator. Such amendments become effective without compliance with regular rulemaking procedures upon publication in the bulletin. [I.C., § 67-5228, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 18, p. 783.]

67-5229. Incorporation by reference. — (1) An agency may incorporate by reference in its rules and without republication of the incorporated material in full, all or any part of a code, standard or rule which has been adopted by an agency of the state or of the United States or by any nationally recognized organization or association, if the incorporation of its text in the agency rules would be unduly cumbersome, expensive, or otherwise inexpedient. The agency shall, as part of the rulemaking:

(a) note where copies of the incorporated material may be obtained; and
(b) if otherwise unavailable, provide one (1) copy of the incorporated material to the state law library and to the coordinator.

(2) If the agency subsequently wishes to incorporate amendments to previously incorporated material, it shall comply with the rulemaking procedures of this chapter. [I.C., § 67-5203A, as added by 1980, ch. 212, § 2, p. 481; am. and redesisg. 1992, ch. 263, § 19, p. 783.]

Compiler's notes. This section was formerly compiled as § 67-5203A and was amended and redesignated as § 67-5229 by § 19 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, effective July 1, 1993.

Section 3 of S.L. 1980, ch. 212 is compiled as § 67-5217.

Section 20 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263 contained a repeal.

67-5230. Petition for adoption of rules. — (1) Any person may petition an agency requesting the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule. The agency shall either:

(a) deny the petition in writing, stating its reasons for the denial, or

(b) initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with this chapter.

The agency shall deny the petition or initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with this chapter within twenty-eight (28) days after submission of the petition, unless the agency's rules are adopted by a multimember agency board or commission whose members are not full-time officers or employees of the state, in which case the agency shall take action on the petition no later than the first regularly scheduled meeting of that board or commission that takes place seven (7) or more days after submission of the petition.

(2) An agency decision denying a petition is a final agency action. [1965, ch. 273, § 6, p. 701; am. and redesign. 1992, ch. 263, § 21, p. 783; am. 1995, ch. 270, § 2, p. 868.]

Compiler's notes. This section was formerly compiled as § 67-5206 and was amended and redesignated as § 67-5230 by § 21 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, effective July 1, 1993.

Section 20 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, contained a repeal and § 19 is compiled as § 67-5229.

Sections 1 and 3 of S.L. 1995, ch. 270 are compiled as §§ 67-5225 and 67-5250, respectively.

67-5231. Invalidity of rules not adopted in compliance with this chapter — Time limitation. — (1) Rules may be promulgated by an agency only when specifically authorized by statute. A final rule adopted after July 1, 1993, is voidable unless adopted in substantial compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(2) A proceeding, either administrative or judicial, to contest any rule on the ground of noncompliance with the procedural requirements of this chapter must be commenced within two (2) years from the effective date of the rule. [I.C., § 67-5231, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 22, p. 783.]

Sec. to sec. ref. This section is referred to in § 67-5273.

67-5232. Declaratory rulings by agencies. — (1) Any person may petition an agency for a declaratory ruling as to the applicability of any statutory provision or of any rule administered by the agency.

(2) A petition for a declaratory ruling does not preclude an agency from initiating a contested case in the matter.

(3) A declaratory ruling issued by an agency under this section is a final agency action. [1965, ch. 273, § 8, p. 701; am. and redesign. 1992, ch. 263, § 23, p. 783.]

Compiler's notes. This section was formerly compiled as § 67-5208 and was amended and redesignated as § 67-5232 by § 23 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, effective July 1, 1993.

Section 24 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263 is compiled as § 67-5240.

Sec. to sec. ref. This section is referred to in § 67-5201.

67-5233 — 67-5239. [Reserved.]

67-5240. Contested cases. — A proceeding by an agency, other than the public utilities commission or the industrial commission, that may result in the issuance of an order is a contested case and is governed by the provisions of this chapter, except as provided by other provisions of law. [I.C., § 67-5240, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 24, p. 783.]

Compiler's notes. Section 23 of S.L. 1992, ch. 263, is compiled as § 67-5232.

Sec. to sec. ref. Sections 67-5240 through 67-5255 are referred to in § 67-5206.

67-5241. Informal disposition. — (1) Unless prohibited by other provisions of law:

- (a) an agency or a presiding officer may decline to initiate a contested case;
- (b) any part of the evidence in a contested case may be received in written form if doing so will expedite the case without substantially prejudicing the interests of any party;
- (c) informal disposition may be made of any contested case by negotiation, stipulation, agreed settlement, or consent order. Informal settlement of matters is to be encouraged;
- (d) the parties may stipulate as to the facts, reserving the right to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction on issues of law.

(2) An agency or a presiding officer may request such additional information as required to decide whether to initiate or to decide a contested case as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If an agency or a presiding officer declines to initiate or decide a contested case under the provisions of this section, the agency or the officer shall furnish a brief statement of the reasons for the decision to all persons involved. This subsection does not apply to investigations or inquiries directed to or performed by law enforcement agencies defined in section 9-337(5), Idaho Code.

(4) The agency may not abdicate its responsibility for any informal disposition of a contested case. Disposition of a contested case as provided in this section is a final agency action. [I.C., § 67-5241, as added by 1992, ch. 263, § 25, p. 783; am. 1993, ch. 216, § 107, p. 587.]

Compiler's notes. Sections 106 and 108 of S.L. 1993, ch. 216 are compiled as §§ 67-5227 and 67-5250, respectively.

67-5242. Procedure at hearing. — (1) In a contested case, all parties shall receive notice that shall include:

- (a) a statement of the time, place, and nature of the hearing;